**My successful experiences of learning English in Korea**

 **Sun Na Young (Mona)**

 **(699)**

Nobody can deny the status of English as a tool for international communication as well as having jobs. So there has been a lot of focusing on learning English in Korea. I also have been eager to speak English very well since I was young. Now I'd like to introduce for my successful experiences in English I've ever. I encountered some factors in the course of learning English as follows: teaching style, language skills, motivations.

First case, I signed up for an English conversation class to study further, which was taught by a male teacher who had lived in Australia. Contrary to my previous class of traditional type which was focused on the lecturing, he gave modern teaching style with using visual aids such as PPT, music video, movie and offering semi-circle seating can share ideas with and discussion that had lots of asking questions. I’m an active person who likes role -play being an actress and love to sing a song. His teaching style encouraged me to study more interesting as well as a kind of a fresh shock to me.

Second occasion was that I met an Englishman whose family emigrated from Africa to England. His English accent was more attractive than others, so I read from story books to English nobles with cassette player and watched animation video with my children as much as possible so that I can improve English skill like listening and speaking. Since then, I started to keep a diary once a week in order to advance writing skill. About six month later, I even spoke English in my dream and my children murmured in English. Afterwards, I had a chance to guide him to Insadong where is a very famous tourist attraction located in the middle of Seoul. He was surprised at traditional tea shops, museums, and antique shops where I was really proud of. Beside Part of truly mastering any language is to understand the customs and traditions of the country. When learning a second language in my native country, listening and reading skills are more available than others.

Last thingwas on the bus. It happened that I met a young American male who was carrying a big backpack. That was one of the most memorable speaking in English I've ever experienced. I sat on back seats with my son and he sat on a front seat looking at a subway guide map. He seemed to look for a transfer station. I was hesitating in minds whether I should help or not. But I wanted to give a good example to my son. After clearing my throat, I asked him how I can help him. Afterwards, we went on having small talks for about five minute until I got off the bus. 'What a fast English speaking it is! Time flies like an arrow!', but I understood most of his fast American English. My son was proud of my challenge. Whenever I met foreigner, I was always too anxious to speak. The fact that fluency is a difficult task, without the experience of living and studying abroad. Most importantly, my intrinsic motivations were not only talking with foreigner who is difference from me but enjoying speaking English. They can help me overcome being afraid of making mistakes and recover low self-esteem little by little.

As a result of various experiences, I often had a hard time learning English as a second language. As time went by, I could feel that I was becoming more confident in speaking English that I could do anything if I would make efforts. And I came to know their culture, thoughts and accents are little bit difference from English-speaking countries. Furthermore, I can prepare for the near future. For example, teaching English in English to students in modern class, interpreting it for public organizations, doing volunteer work, and other things. Knowing how to acquire second language well just opens so many doors and gives a strong advantage. It is not easy to study language steadily but I will do my best to improve my English skill as long as I live.